

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A cryostat comprising:
  - a cryostat chamber;
  - a microtome inside the cryostat chamber for cutting frozen specimens; and
  - an illumination device ~~including at least one LED~~ inside the cryostat chamber for illuminating the cryostat chamber, wherein the illumination device includes a plurality of illumination modules each having a plurality of LEDs, a plug connector for connecting a power supply system to the illumination module, and a splash protector for protecting the plurality of LEDs of the illumination module; and
    - a circuit arrangement for individually and/or collectively controlling the plurality of illumination modules.
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) The cryostat as defined in ~~Claim 2~~ Claim 1, further comprising a power supply system, wherein ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of the illumination modules are ~~provided~~ and electrically connected to the power supply system.
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (currently amended) The cryostat as defined in ~~Claim 6~~ Claim 1, wherein the circuit arrangement enables individual and/or collective dimming of the plurality of illumination modules.

9. (original) The cryostat as defined in Claim 4, wherein the cryostat chamber includes a cover that can be opened and closed, and the cryostat further comprises a switch electrically connected to the circuit arrangement and activated by opening and closing of the cover, whereby the switch automatically signals the circuit arrangement to control at least one of the plurality of illumination modules upon opening and closing of the cover.
10. (canceled)